

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /107 W

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R 151605Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1840

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, CH

SUBJECT: DUTCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO VISIT PRC

1. A 13-MAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE FIRST AND SECOND CHAMBERS WILL VISIT PRC FROM FRIDAY, AUG 17 TO SUNDAY, AUG 26. THE DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY ANNE VONDELING (LABOR PARTY), CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND CHAMBER. IN ADDITION TO VONDELING, DELEGATION COMPRISES D.F. VAN DER MEI (CHRISTIAN HISTORICAL UNION), F.H. ANDRIESSEN (FLOOR LEADER, CATHOLIC PEOPLE'S PARTY, SECOND CHAMBER), H.A. VAN MIERLO (D-66), E. VAN THIJN (FLOOR LEADER, LABOR PARTY, SECOND CHAMBER), H. WIEGEL (FLOOR LEADER, LIBERAL PARTY, SECOND CHAMBER), B. ROLVINK (ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY PARTY), M.L. DE BRAUW (DEMOCRAT SOCIALISTS '70), B. DE GAAY FORTMAN (FLOOR LEADER, RADICAL PARTY, SECOND CHAMBER), FIRST CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES ARE W.J. SCHUIJT (CATHOLIC PEOPLE'S PARTY), U. VAN DER WERFF (LIBERAL PARTY), W. HARTOG (COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE NETHERLANDS). THE DEPUTY CLERK OF THE SECOND CHAMBER WILL SERVE AS SECRETARY OF THE DELEGATION AND C. SCHEPEL OF THE DUTCH SINOLOGICAL INSTITUTE WILL ACCOMPANY AS INTERPRETER.

2. IN INTERVIEW WITH PRESS AUG 15, SECOND CHAMBER FLOOR LEADER

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VONDELING SAID THAT THE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION IS STILL NOT

AWARE OF ITS PROGRAM IN CHINA. HE SAID THE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION HAS MADE VARIOUS WISHES KNOWN TO THE CHINESE EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE BUT HAS BEEN TOLD FINAL DECISION ON PROGRAM MUST BE TAKEN IN PEKING AND WILL BE MADE KNOWN THERE. VONDELING SAID HE WAS AWARE THIS LARGE A WESTERN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION SEEMED UNUSUAL, BUT REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON WHAT MOTIVES HAD PROMPTED THE CHINESE TO INVITE THE "CHINESE OF EUROPE" TO VISIT AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME. HE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT THE FACT THAT A LEFT-WING GOVT HAD RECENTLY COME TO POWER IN THE NETHERLANDS MIGHT HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CHINESE INVITATION.

3. COMMENT: VISITS OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS TO CHINA AT THIS JUNCTURE ARE NOW HARDLY NOVEL, BUT THE SIZE OF THE DUTCH DELEGATION DOES SEEM OF INTEREST. WHILE WE ARE UNAWARE OF EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF EXPOSURE DELEGATIONS OF THIS TYPE HAVE TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN PEKING, WE WOULD NOTE THAT ANDRIESSEN, VAN THIJN AND WIEGEL, ALL FORMER LEADER GRANTEES, ARE GOOD EMBASSY CONTACTS AND ARE SHARP OBSERVERS. M.L. DE BRAUW, FORMER MINISTER OF SCIENCE, REPRESENTS A CONSISTENTLY PRO-AMERICAN POLITICAL GROUPING. ANDREW KLOOS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE DUTCH FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, IS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE MEMBER OF THE FIRST CHAMBER DELEGATION, THOUGH DR. SCHUIJT, WHO RECENTLY LOST OUT IN RACE FOR PRESIDENCY OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, HAS ALSO BEEN CONSISTENTLY HELPFUL TO EMBASSY.
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